

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0074/037001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroki FURUKAWA                                  Art Unit:  
Application No.: filed concurrently                          Examiner:  
Filed : December 9, 2003  
Title : NULL SYMBOL DETECTION DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

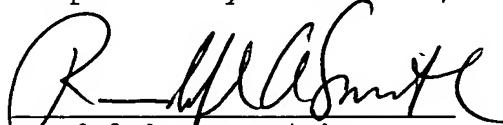
Please note that Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-27333 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0042661 are discussed on page 1 of the specification. An English language abstract of the Japanese reference is also enclosed.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Randolph A. Smith  
Reg. No. 32,548

Date: December 9, 2003

**SMITH PATENT OFFICE**  
1901 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20006-3433  
Telephone: 202/530-5900  
Facsimile: 202/530-5902  
Furukawa120903

**Substitute for form 1449A/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

---

Sheet

1

---

1

***Complete if Known***

Application Number	Filed concurrently
Filing Date	December 9, 2003
Applicants	Hiroki FURUKAWA
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	0074/037001

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number, document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the serial number of the patent document. <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

**\*Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.**